The Declaration,

(32)

And

APOLOGY

of the

PROTESTANT PEOPLE

That is,

Of the Noblemen, Barrons, Gentlemen, Burgesses, and Commons of all sorts,

Now in Armes within the Kingdom of Scotland.

PSAL LXVIII. V. 1. 2.

Let God arise; let his enemies be scattered; let them also, that hate him, flee before him; as smoke is driven away, so drive them away; as wax melteth before the fire, so let the wicked perish at the presence of God.

BIBLIOTHECA BODLEIANA

Reprinted more exactly then formerly conform to the True Copye.

The Declaration, and Apology of the Proteſtant People; *That is of the Noblemen, Barrons, Gentlemen, Burgeſſes, And Commons of all ſorts, now in Armes within the Kingdom of Scotland, with the concurrence of their true and faithfull Paſtors, and of ſeveral Gentlemen of the English Nation, joyned with them in the ſame cauſe; For defence and releif of their Lives, Rights, & Liberties, and recovery and reeſtablishment of the true Proteſtant Religion, in behalfe of them ſelves, and all that ſhall joyn with, and adhere to them.*

They muſt be altogether ſtrangers, or very litle concerned in the *Chriſtian world*, who (after all that *the Nations and Churches about* have Seen, of the Lords migthy hand and ſtreatched-out arm in the late *wars* betuixt *King Charles the Firſt.* and his *People* and *Parliaments of Scotland, England & Ireland.* Againſt the then Conſpyreings of *Popery* and *Tyranny*, to the ruine of true *Religion* and *Liberty*; The wonderful advancement of the *Goſpel* and *Kingdom* of our *Lord Jeſus* within theſe Kingdomes, that therupon enſued: With the general *refreshment*, *joy*, and *ſecurity* of all the Proteſtant Churches abroad, that thence redounded: And the no leſs rooted and firm *Loyalty* of the ſame people, who notwithſtanding of their long bloody and fatal *contendings* with the *father*, Did Yet upon reaſonable fair and juſt *treaties*, concluded with all the aſſurance, that either *Religion honour* or *gratitude* could promiſe, call back and reſtore *Charles the 2d. his ſone* to his thron and empire) Are not fully convinced and ſatisfied, that conſidering the perpetual contradictings and counteractings of all *theſe* ſacred and ſolemn *engadgments* that imediatly and ever ſince have been practiſed; the whole reign of the aforſaid *Charles the 2d*, (through the ſiniſtrous and ſubtile influences of a *wicked* and *popish party*, now manifeſtly diſcovered) *was* a conſtant & uniform courſe of *perjury*, *apoſtacy*, and *violence*: *Begun* with open *rebellion* againſt *God*, The *reſcinding*, not only of particular *lawes*, but, by an un-paralled moſt un-politick and pernicious device, of whole unexceptionable *parliaments*, for the ſpace of tuenty ſeven yeares preceeding, notwithſtanding both our *Religion* and *liberties* were therein expreſly, legally and well provided for; and the cruel *ſhedding* of the beſt Proteſtant *blood*, in the moſt unjuſt execution of the *Late Marquis of Argyll*, and many other *worthies*, contrar to all Law and reaſon: *Carried* on by the *ſmiting* and *caſting out* of more faithfull and pious *Paſtors*, and *ſcattering* and *diſſipating* more true *flockes* and *followers* of Chriſt, than was done in moſt of the *ten primitive perſecutions*, and the *deluging* of theſe Lands with all villanous *debauchries* and *abominable licentiouſneſs*, to the very *profligating* of *conſcienee morality* and *common honeſty* from among men: *And* thence forward *accomplished* by a moſt un-relenting *perſecution*, and *oppreſſion* of the generality of Gods people in their *conſciences*, *Perſons & Eſtates*, with *vexations* and *rigours* almoſt incredible, and that for no other reaſon, but becauſe they could not *actively* comply with theſe notorious *Perfidies*, and the manifold *profanations* and *miſcheifs*, where with they are attended.

But this *hellish myſtery* of *Antichriſtian iniquity and arbitrary Tyranny*, *impoſing* upon many *at home* too willing, through their love of eaſe, to be abuſed and *deluding* the *Proteſtant churches abroad* (in that woefull and viſible *indifferency*, that every where reigns) by the *vain* pretext of the *mere nation* of our *courts* empty and ſimulat pro-

protestant profession, having of a long time under the *late King* made most remarkable *advances* in the following particulars, and many *more* that might be enumerated, all too evidently *seen*, and heavily felt, to need any explicite proof or demonstration;

As 1. not only in the abovementioned open and avowed *revolting* from God, by breach of *Sworn treaties*, *Covenants*, and *coronation oaths*, and *slighting* and *despiseing* spontaneous *promises* and *proclamations*, the *overturning* the very foundations of *Parliaments*, and *ranverseing* at one blow our best and most legal establishments. The *ungrate* as well as *unjust putting to death* of most innocent and faithful men, upon absurd *pretences*; conveiled by the *Laws* and *customs* of nations, and in the time of Gods greatest *indulgence* towards the authors; The *desolating* of the *Churches*, and *changing* of the *ordinances of God*, for *setting up* the frivolous and superstitious *inventions of men*, the *countenancing* and *encouraging* of all *vice* and *profanity*, and the violent and griveous *persecuting* of all conscience and *conscientious* men.

But nixt and more particularly, in the *conniving* at *Papists* their *meetings* and *Idolatrous masses*, while in the mean time all *Protestant Nonconformists* are persecuted with endless *severities*:

The *raising of standing forces*, the very *bane* of all *civil* and *Lawful Government*, and that without any *other measure*, save what the *indigence* of Court *Luxury* and *profusion* did necessarly *put* unto it:

The *declaring* and *appointing* all *Iudges* and *Officers*, to enjoy their places *only during pleasure*, on purpose to make them more *supple* and *complyant* to all their *masters* designes.

The *abusing* of the *great trust*, of *calling* and *dissolving* Parliaments, the *most high* and *necessary courts* of the Kingdomes, by iniquous *Packing*, unseasonable *proroguing*, pernicious *discharging*, and insolent *baffling* them *at pleasure*.

The *exalting* of the Kings *supremacy*, under the colour of his pretended *right* and *power*, about the *external Government* and *Policy* of the *Church*, to an express and absolut power, of *enacting* & *statuting* in all *Church meetings* and *matters*, as he in his wisdom shall think fitt; a ready & prepared *tool* to bring us back not only to *Popery* but to *Paganism*.

The *strange perversion* of the *high trust* of the *Militia*, committed to his Majesty expressly, for the *protection* of *good subjects*, and the *assistance* of all our *protestant friends abroad*, only to the *invading* and *oppressing* by lawless *hosts* of the worst of *high landers* and *low landers*, in times of profound *peace*, the best *parts* of the Kingdom, purposly to ruin them, because *too Protestant*, by *free quarter* and other illegal *exactions* and *the making warr* most *causlesly* and *obstinatly* against the *States of the united Netherlands*, our *best* nighbours, and the *strongest* bulwarck of the *Protestant* interest:

The *forcing* of *poor people*, by the extream *rigours* of exorbitant *finings*, *imprisonings*, *beatings stigmatizins*, *spoilings*, *banishments*, and other *violences*, for the simple *cause* of *Nonconformity*, to take *armes* in their own *defence* as at *Pentland* and *Bothwel bridge* and then *demeaning* and *executing* them, what in *fields* what on *scaffolds*, as the *most desperat* of traitours, and at the same time *involving* whole *countryes* upon the most *slender* and *absurd pretexts*, of inevitable *intercommunings* and *reset*, both in their *crimes* and *punishments*:

The *setting up* of the most *violent* and *obnoxious* of men, to be *Ministers* of the Law, and *Packing juries*, and *assizes* most partially, for their worst ends:

The *straining*, *streaching*, and *wresting* of Law, not only in *prejudice* of every one suspected to be *disaffected* to their evil courses but the *violation* of all right, for *spoiling*, and *robbing cities* and *incorporations* of their ancient and undoubted *priviledges*,

The *transporting* of *freemen* as *slaves* to *forreine* plantations, for not *making faith* to answer (againſt law) *ſuper inquirendis*, as alſo for *not dilating* men upon *Oath* (according to a moſt impious *Law* lately made againſt *Nonconformiſts*) in *matters* where in the *party* put to *ſwear*, judges them to be in their *duty*, & without *exception* of his *neareſt relations*;

The *arbitrarie impriſonings* and *detainings of free ſubjects* without either bringing them to *trial*, or allowing them any *hearing*.

The *torturing* of ſeveral perſons, even *fyve times* more, of *conſcientious non conformiſts* within theſe *tuenty* yeares, then of all ſorts of *fellons* and *malefactors* in *Scotland* theſe *hundered* yeares by paſt, and that without either *juſt previous grounds*, regarding of *Legal methods*, or obſerving the *meaſures* of *common humanity*.

The *eliciting* by promiſes of *indemnity*, and the *publick faith* interpoſed for that effect *voluntary confeſſions* of ſome as of *Mr. Iames Mitchill* &c. and then not only *retracting*, and *diſſowning* the *promiſe* & *condition* upon *Oath*, in face of the juſtice court, but further *witneſſing* the *confeſſion* to the poor mans *condemnation*, not with ſtanding the *bookes of council* containing the aforſaid *indemnity* were produced and *laid open* before and at the very time of their *ſwearing*; Lyke as of Late after moſt *cruel* and *exquiſit tortures* practiſed upon *Mr. Spens* & *Mr. Carſtairs*, and a *full* & *ample promiſe* there after made them with *an act* upon it, that neither *they* nor their *evidence* ſhould ever be made uſe of to *their* or to any *other* mens hurt; they never-the-leſs cauſe *produce* and do *ſuſtine* Mr. Carſtairs *depoſition* Againſt *Bailzie of Iarviſwood* for an *adminicle* or *aid* to their lame and defective *probation*;

The *making* men *offenders* yea *traitours for words*, and theſe *true fair* and *innocent*; As the *Earl of Argyl*, for *declaring* before the *Council* after *leave given*, and with *ſubmiſſion* and only for *exonering* his own conſcience, that *he believed*, *the Parliament intended no contradiction in the teſt*, *and therefore was willing to take it in their ſens viz: for ſecuring the Proteſtant Religion*, *and that he did not thereby mean to bind up him ſelf from endeavouring Lawfully in Church and State*, *what Religion and Loyaltie might obleidge and allow him to do*, for which *words* nevertheleſs he was *tryed* and *condemned as a traitour*, in the *loſs* of his *life*, *lands*, and *goods*; and ſtands *de facto deprived* of both *Lands* and *goods*, having only ſaved his *life* in the *extremitie* by a gracions providential *eſcape*

The cruel *executing* to the *death* of ſeveral *hundreds* within theſe *tuenty* yeares, beſids *many hundreds* more, that have either *fallen* in the *fields*, or been made to, *periſh* in their *impriſonments*, or *tranſportations*, and that for the alone *cauſe* or on the *occaſion* of their *conſcientious non conforming*. And ſome of them (of which *number* ſeveral *poor women*) for their *bare opinion* about the Kings *breach of truſt*, never before by them *vented*, but ſimply *declared* upon *examination*, and *moſt part* of them *diſpatched* with that *barbarous* inhumanity as that (after no better *example* then that of the *bloody Duke of Alba*) they were by *beating of Drumms* hindered to ſpeak to the people their *laſt* and *dying words*; And ſome of them, *contrair* to the perpetual cuſtom of *Scotland* and all the *formes* uſed in the *Chriſtian world*, and as if it had been on deſign *to deſtroy* both their *ſonls* and *bodies*, *tryed ſentenced* and *put to death* in *one Day*, yea the *time* and *hour* of their Death *induſtriouſly* concealed from them, that they might be *cut of* by a *more mortal* ſurpriſe.

The *condemning* ſome to *death*, others to the *boring* of their *tongues*, and *fyning* many in moſt *exorbitant* ſummes even to 100000 *pound Sterling*, for *calling* the *Duke of Yorke* a *Papiſt*, notwithſtanding the *notoriety* of the matter to all men and *his recuſancie found* and *declared* by a *grand jurie*, and *expreſſly Supposed* by an *exception* in his favours, contained in an *Act of parliament*, and that now he *goes* openly to the *maſs*, and *marches* in *ſolemn proceſſions* to the *horrour* of all good *Proteſtant* ſubjects:

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The *looſing* and *exempting* the *Kings ſones* and *brothers*, from what themſelves conceaved to be the *beſt fence* and *greateſt ſecuritie* for the *Proteſtant religion.*

The *impoſing* and *preſſing* of *Oaths without Law* manifeſtly *contradictorie*, and that by *terrible menacings*, *violent beatings*, *rigorous impriſonings* and *irreligious ſwearings*, no leſs *barbarous* then what was practiſed by the *Spanjards* in *Chriſtianiſing* the *wilde Indians*;

The *eating up* of men by *free quarters*, or otherwiſe *falling on* them by dounright *violence*, as *dryving* with *drawen Swords*, to conſtrain them to hear, whom in their *conſcience* they judged *unſent* and *uncalled Curats*, to the *effaceing* of all *conſcience*, and *oppen ſcorn* of *God* and that *pure* and *free religion*, which he only accepts.

The *compelling* the *heritors of Shires* to *aſſeſſe* them ſelves and the free ſubjects within their bounds, a *thing* expreſly *denyed* by Law to *the King himſelf*, and only *reſerved* to *Parliaments.*

The *Sorning upon*, *harraſſing* and *deſtroying* the beſt parts of the *Country* by *four extraordinary circuits* upon one and the ſame *ſubject* of *Bothwel bridge*, on purpoſe as it were to juſtify his *highneſs* judgment to his late *majeſty*. *That it would not be well with Scotland untill the South of Forth* (the better and more ſubſtantial halfe of that Kingdom) *were turned to a hunting field.* And to *verify* the *late Chancellor* the Earl of Aberdeen his *affirmation* at the *Council board*, *that there was not a loyal ſubject weſt ward of the Caſtle of Edinburgh.*

The *induſtrious ſtifling hindering* or *eluding* the detection of all *popiſh plots.*

The *ſhamming* of *Mock plots* upon good *Proteſtants:*

The *ſuborning of witneſſes*, *hounding out* and *encouraging* of *Aſſaſſins* to murder and cut the throats of honeſt men.

Aud generally *in the ſtudied* and *conſtant enſnaring* or *ruining* upon every *Shaddow* of pretence all eſteemed either *fixed* to the *proteſtant intereſt* or *well affected* to their *Countries libertie.*

This *wicked myſterie*, wee Say, and *conſpiracy* of *Popery* and *Tyrranny* inſeparablie *twiſted* both in experience and reaſon in all their *attempts* upon theſe *great* and *mighty Nations* ſo unanimouſly united and firmly fixed in their *contrarie Profeſſion*, *rights* & *liberties*, having made ſo great a *progreſs* by the *ſteps* abovementioned, is now at length *evidently diſcloſed* and *brought to full maturity* by the moſt *ſuſpicious* (though with all *moſt ungrate*) *cutting off* of the *late King* as having indeed very unhappily acted all that part of which the *conſpirators* did judge him capable. *The aſcending* of *James Duke of York a notorious apoſtat* and *bigot Papiſt* to *the throne*, notwithſtanding his being *thrice excinded* by the *Commons of England.* And that he neither *hath given* nor *can give* without an *hypocritical* and *damning cheat* repugnant to his *Profeſſion* and *contemptible* to all ingenuous men *the oath* and *ſecurity* indiſpenſably required of him *before*, and *at his entrie* to the government. 1 6. P. 1. c. 8. *The approaching* of two *Parliaments*, both *called* by him, *one* in Scotland, by his own vigilant *Providence* (in *procureing* it to be *enacted* in the *laſt Parliament* held by him in that *Kingdom*, That for the future not only *all members of* Parliament, but alſo *all their electors* ſhould take that *contradictorie* and *irreligious oath* commonly called *the Teſt*, which no man owning *conſcience*, or *caring* for *any religion* can poſſibly approve) long ſince *prepared* for all *his pleaſure.* And *the other* in *England packt*, *caballed*, and *returned* by all the *arts* and *methods* that either *fraud* or *injuſtice* could invent, to render it *plyable* to his *intentions*, and which no doubt he will *cajoll* with all the *faire promiſes* and *Large offers of Laws*, that can he deſired for ſecuring both the *Proteſtant Religion* and their *liberties*; Providing they will but *give money*, which anſwers all things, and will as aſſuredly fruſtrat; and ranverſe all theſe *vain cautions.* *The perſuing* with indefatigable

 malice

malice even without the bounds of the *Kingdoms*, and in *all forreign parts all honest men*, *escaped* for their *lives* and that either by *Publick addresses* or *privat violences*: so that they are necessarly reduced to that fatal dilemma, *either to do or dy*. *The entering into & entertaining more close correspondences* then at any time before, with *popish Princes* and *states*, Especially the *King of France*, a most *notorious enemie* both of the *true religion* and *liberty* of mankind. And lastly by all that may be already *seen* in the *changes* and *alterations* he hath lately made, and that for here-after may be *apprehended*, from *a false* and *bloody Religion*, alwayes breathing forth and practising *fire* and *fagot*, *murders* and *massacres* and, *a provock'd and inraged mind*, Possessing and reigning in the *most determined* of Princes, unquestionably *capable* and *ready* to execut all these *bloody cruelties*.

Which things being all of them either palpable *perversions* or utterly *inconsistent* with the true and great *ends of government*, rendering our *common Wealth* our *Common calamitie*, and *him* who pretends to be its *protector* its most *hostile enemie*, and consequently *importing* no less then a *totall dissolution* of all the *bonds* of Subjection which the *rulers* have first so wickedly broke and cut assunder; and *the liberating* and *alloweng* all distressed subjects, whither those *already* overwhelmed by, or who may justly for *hereafter* fear to be involved in these *miseryes*, that *undoubted right* and *power* which both *God* and *nature* with *comon reason* and the *constant custom* of all *Nations* have given us, for *recovering defendsng* and *maintaining* our *lives* and *liberties*, and above all the *inestimable blessing* of our *pure Religion*, to the effect that the same *pure Religion* with our *just rights* and *liberties* so valiantly asserted by *our ancestors* may be by us faithfully transmitted to *our posterities*.

We have been & are *obliged* and *constrained* by *extream necessity* and *for common safety* (*the suprem laws*) To take up *just* and *necessary arms* in the *name* & *fear* of the Great God, and *the confidence* of his mercie and assistance for *our own* and *our Countries releif* from the aforsaid most griveous and intolerable *Tyrannies* and *oppressions*; *The defence* and *reestablishment* of the *true and pure Christian Religion*, commonly called *Protestant*, in opposition to that *Antichristian Roman Religion*, commonly called *Papistical*, and *the recovery* and *reestablishmene* of all our *just rights liberties* and *privildges*, according as wee Stand *indispensably obliged* there to, both before God & men; And that *against* the *said James Duke of Yorck* and all other his *accomplices*, our most unnatural and wicked *enemies and oppressours*.

Desyring in the first place to be *deeply humbled* each of us before God, for our manifold *sins* and *provocations*. Especially our *false heartednes* and *unstedfastnes in*, & *revolsings from* our great and manifold *engadgments* to him, that alone have brought upon us all these *sad mischeifes*, earnestly and with our whole hearts supplicating, that he would *cease from his anger*, *Cause his face to Shine upon us*. and *save us for his own names sake*.

And in the nixt place *declaring* lyke as we hereby *expresly declare*, that our sincere and single *ends* and *designes* in this our *undertakeing*, are, *First* the *restoring and setling of* the foresaid *true reformed Protestant Religion* in its *power* and *puritie*, and with such a just *comprehension* of pure Christian *charitie*, as may thorow the good hand of our God upon us be truly satisfieing to all that fear him, and love our Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity; *Renouncing* and *detesting* as well *impofings* as *errours*, in all *matters of Conscience*, and trusting that after the many *teaching* experiences we have had, we shall be for here after preserved from all unhappy missunderstandings. But rather thorow the *Spirit of truth love* and *peace* graciously led into all the *paths* thereof.

aly. The *suppression* and *perpetual exclusion* of *antichristian Popery* with all its *idolatrous superstitions and falshoods*, as also its most *bitter root* and *offspring prelacy*, with

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its new and wicked *head the ſupremacie*, and all their *abuſes*, that ſo not only the Goſpel and work of God may be *revived* in theſe lands, but alſo all the Churches of Chriſt abroad thereby *refreshed* and ſtrengthened.

And 3ly *The reſtoring* of all men to their *juſt rights* and *liberties* eſpecally *the recompenſing* of all ſufferers, whether unto *blood or loſs of liberty* and *goods*, *the releif* of ſuch who are in preſent diſtreſs, the *removing* of all oppreſſion, and *eſtabliſhing* ſuch righteous *Laws* and *methods of Government*, as may be moſt for ſecuring *of liberty* and *property* with the greateſt *eaſe* and *equalitie*;

Which things as wee purpoſe and hope to accomplish only through the *preſence* of our God with us, and his *bleſſing* upon us, So we are moſt willing and reſolved that they be all *ſetled* and *perfected* by a *free full juſt and Sovereaign repreſentative* of all the *preſent undertakers* and ſuch as ſhall Hereafter ſincerly *concurre* and *take part* with us; and that in ſuch *formes* and *wayes* as God by his good providence can only moſt happily *direct* and *conduct us* unto? *declaring* and *proteſting* further, that ſince ſuch have been and are the manifeſt *perfidy treachery* and *falshood* of our *adverſaries*, not only in their *treaties* and *Convenants* but alſo in their *pardons indemnities* and *indulgences*, as that they leave no ground or tolerable aſſurance *of faith* and *truſt* to be given to them, we will never *enter into* any termes of *Capitulation treaties* or *conditions* with them, as to the *great ends* of this undertaking; but on the contrary *proſecut* the ſame with all *reality conſtancie* and *vigour* without any *ſeparation diviſion or backdrawing*, untill they be perfectly and finally obtained. Upon which grounds and for which ends abovementioned we not only hereby moſt ſincerely and firmly *proteſt* and *declare as in the preſence of God*, *conſtantly* and *perpetually* to aſſiſt and maintain one another to the *uttermoſt against all*, *deadly*. But do more-over freely and heartily *reſolve* and *engadge* our ſelves to *countenance* and *concurr* with all our perſecuted and oppreſſed *brotheren* and *freinds* in *England* and *Irland*, who from the *Like* reaſons and motives ſhall be induced and ſtirred up to *the like* undertaking for the *ſame* or the *like* Ends.

Wherefore we moſt ſeriouſly and humbly *beſeech and obteſt* in the *bowels of our lord Chriſt* all that love his *truth* and this our righteous *cauſe*, nonne excepted, though either formerly litle *concerned for*, & *favourable* to us. & theſe intereſts, or even ſtill *in actual oppoſition* againſt us and them (their *ſincere repentance* being at all times to God moſt *acceptable* and not to be better *witneſſed* before men then by a contrarie and vigorous *amendement*) *to come and joyn* with us for *Gods Glory*, and *Goſpel*, our *country*, *lives rights* and *liberties* and our *poſterities*, and *all our hope*, *Againſt* an *apoſtat Papiſt*, *an uſurping* and *perſecuting Tyran*, by the moſt ſacred article of his Religion, our *mortal enemy* under the *pain* of his own *Damnation*, and by the *fundamental and expreſs laws*, of the land *I. 6. P. 1. c. 9. & P. 20. c. 5.* incapable of the *meaneſt office* within the Kingdom, and in effect a *declared enemy* and *rebell* *1. 6. P. 3. c. 47.* And who even by the Act lately made by himſelf for pathing the way to his ſucceſſion *Ch. 2. p. 3. c. 2.* can have no *shaddow of pretence* to the benefite thereof. Unleſs he firſt inſtruct him ſelf both to be the *Lawfull and the immediat and neareſt heir of the crown*, which without ſatiſfieing the old Law. *1a. 6. p. 1. c. 8.* at the ſame time *ratified* *Ch. 2. p. 3. c. 1.* by *ſwearing* to embrace and maintain the *true reformed Proteſtant Religion*, he can never poſſibly be, as was then diſtinctly underſtood, and declared by the principal *framers* of that Act. And *againſt* his *adherents* and *pertakers*, a perjured revolted and ſelf condemned generation. Upon whom the Lord, who will not give his *glory* to another, hath formerly got him ſelf *a name and renown* before all the Nations, whom our *ſins* only have *exalted*, and whoſe *hearts* can never endure or their *hands* be ſtrong when the *Lord* [illegible] who is on our ſide, and hath a *perpetual indignation* againſt all the *wicked* in the

earth

earth shall *arise*, and *deal* with them. And this our moſt earneſt *call* and *requeſt* we confidently hope ſhall be the more readily hearkened unto, and heartily and ſeriouſly complyed with, that in the iſſue, thorow the *bleſſing of God*, it aſſuredly promiſes not only the *reſtitution* of *truth*, *proſperity* and *glory* to theſe long *miſgoverned haraſſed and diſgraced Nationes*: but the *ſure defence* and *protection* of *true Religion* and *liberty* every where (Brittains certain and great *intereſt* of late moſt shamefully *abandoned*) and even the *depreſſion* of Antichriſt and the *advancement* and *exaltation* of the Kingdom of our Lord Ieſus Chriſt in all the earth.

Let us therefore be of good courage, and play the men for our people and for the cauſe of our God. And the Lord do that, which Seemeth him good.

THE DECLARATION of ARCHIBALD Earl of ARGYLE, Lord Kintyre, Cowall, Campbel *and* Lorn, *Heritable Sheriff and Lieutenant of the Shires of* Argile *and* Tarbett, *and Heritable Juſtice General of the ſaid Shires, and of the Weſt Iſles, and others. Withhis Order to his Vaſſals and others in the ſaid Shires, and under his Juriſdiction, to Concurr for Defence of their Religion, Lives and Liberties.*

I ſhall not mention my *Caſe*, publiſhed in Print in Latine and more largely in English, nor mean I to repeat the Printed *Declaration* emitted by ſeveral Noblemen, Gentlemen, and others of both Nations now in Arms, but becauſe the *Sufferings* of me and my Family are therein mentioned, I have thought it fit for me, *to declare* for my ſelf; That as I go to *Arms* with thoſe who have appointed me to Conduct them, for *no private*, nor *perſonal end*, and only for *thoſe* contained in the ſaid *Declaration*, which I have concerted with them, and approve of, ſo I *do claim* no intereſt, but what I had before the pretended *Forfeiture* of my Family, and have ſufficient right to.

And that I do *freely*, (and as *a Chriſtian*) forgive all Perſonal Injuries againſt my Perſon or Family to all, that ſhall not oppoſe, but Join and Concur with us in our preſent *Undertaking*, for the ends mentioned in the ſaid *Declaration*. And hereby I *oblidge* me never to *purſue* them in *Iudgement*; nor *out of Iudgment*; And I do further *declare*, That obtaining the peaceable and quiet Poſſeſſion of what belonged to my Father and my ſelf before our pretended *Forfeitures*. I *ſhall ſatisfie* all Debts due by my Father and my ſelf, as any *Heir* or *Debitor* can be obliged.

And as my *Faithfulneſs* to his late Majeſty and his Government, hath ſufficiently appeared to all unbiaſſed Perſons, void of Malice, ſo I do *with Grief acknowledge* my former too much *complying* with, and *connyving* at the *methods* that have been taken to bring us to the ſad condition we are now in, though God knows never concurring in the *deſign*.

I have now with Gods ſtrength ſuffered patiently my *unjuſt Sentence* and *Banishment* three years and a half, and have never offered to make any Uproar or defence by Arms to diſturb the Peace upon my private Concern; But *the King* being now *Dead*, and *the Duke of York* having taken off his Maſk, and having *abandoned* and *invaded* our Religion and Liberties; *Reſolving* to enter into the Government and Exercile it *conform to Law*; I think it not only *Juſt*, but *my Duety* to God and my Country, to uſe my outmoſt endeavors to oppoſe and repreſs his *Uſurpation* and *Tyranny*.

And there fore being aſſiſted and furniſhed *very nobly* by ſeveral good Proteſtants, and invited and accompanied by ſeveral of both Nations to lead them, I *reſolve*, as God ſhall enable me, to uſe their aſſiſtance of all kinds, towards *the ends* expreſt in the ſaid *Declaration*.

And I do hereby *earneſtly invite* and *obteſte* all honeſt Proteſtants, and particularly all my *Friends* and *Blood Relations*, *to concur* with us in the ſaid *Declaration*; And as I have written ſeveral Letters, ſo having no other way fully to intimate my mind otherwiſe, I do *hereby require* all my *Vaſſals* any where, and all within my ſeveral *Juriſdictions with* their *Fencible Men* within their *Command*, to go to Arms, and to join and concur with us according to the ſaid Declaration, as they will be anſwerable on their peril; And that they obey the particular *Orders* they ſhall receive from me from time to time.